Draft Environmental Review of Fish Introduction

	Dian	Liivii oiiiiciitai Revi	ew of Fish introduction
Desci	ription of water body	and action:	
		ollar Bill Pond (also k	nown as Mud Creek Reservoir)
	County: Meagher		
	Legal Description:	T9N R11E S9/16 46.54702; 110.3466	Water Code: No water code
Novo	Resources (DNRC) of Maximum depth is a pond in 1972 for broad downstream failed in aerial photography f Martinsdale, Montar	owned pond. The pondbout 17feet (Figure 1) bok trout and rainbow in the last 6 years. Pondrom 1998, 2005 and 2 in (Figure 2).	t in a Montana Department of Natural d is about 10 surface acres at full pool. A private pond license was granted to this trout. A historic pond immediately d appears to keep good water levels based on 009. Pond is located about 7 miles north of
Name	e of the drainage whe The pond is located	_	tary of the North Fork Musselshell River.
Fish s	species proposed for i Rainbow trout	introduction:	
Is thi		ent in the drainage? bow trout for this pond	Yes. A private pond permit was granted for I in the past.
Speci	es of Special Concern Northern redbelly x Reservoir in 2004.	O	were sampled about 3 miles upstream of the
Risks	::		
Inlets		_	Explain: Pond is on-stream. Trout may

Inlets to or outlets from the po		_	•
There is not a visible out upstream during high flo	tlet pipe but some see	epage below the dam. Fi	sh can swim
block fish passage.	w events. Additiona	ii ponus about 1.5 miles	upstream snoutd
Potential for impacts on the go	enetic structure of e	existing fish population	s:
NoneX	Minor N	Major	

During high flow events, stocked trout could go over the spillway into the North Fork Musselshell. Rainbow trout are stocked heavily Bair Reservoir on the North Fork Musselshell. It is unlikely that the stocked fish would have negative impacts on the genetics of non-native rainbow.

Impacts to any life stage of existing fish populations due to competition and/or predation: NoneXMinor Major
The stocked fish will eat small fish in the pond if they are present. It is unlikely that the trout will colonize the drainage upstream of the pond; passage would be blocked about 1.5 miles upstream. There should not be any population level effects.
Impacts to other forms of aquatic life that may be caused by this introduction:None Major
It is unlikely that there will be additional impacts.
Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location:None Major
It is unlikely stocked rainbow trout would reproduce in this pond.
If necessary would it be feasible to remove this species after it has been stocked? Yes the pond is small enough to treat and/or be drawn down by pumps.
Would this introduction result in impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? No.
Describe reasonable and prudent alternatives to this action, if any (including no action).
No action . There would not be a new opportunity for public fishing in Meagher County.
Describe and evaluate mitigation, stipulations or other control measures enforceable by the agency, if any. Fish stocking will be a beneficial action. Walk-in access may be required.
List all agencies and individuals that may be affected by the proposed introduction.
Area anglers. Lessee of state land.
List all agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction.
DNRC; FWP
Based on this evaluation, is an EIS required YES/NO? If no explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for the proposed actions. No. Action expected to be minor.
EA prepared by: Anne Tews, Fisheries Biologist Date: June 10, 2010 Comments accepted until: August 2, 2010

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Comments should be sent to: Anne Tews, MFWP, P.O. Box 938, Lewistown, MT 59457:
Email address: antews@mt.gov



Figure 1. Hundred Dollar Bill Pond (Mud Creek Reservoir) Map. June 8, 2010.

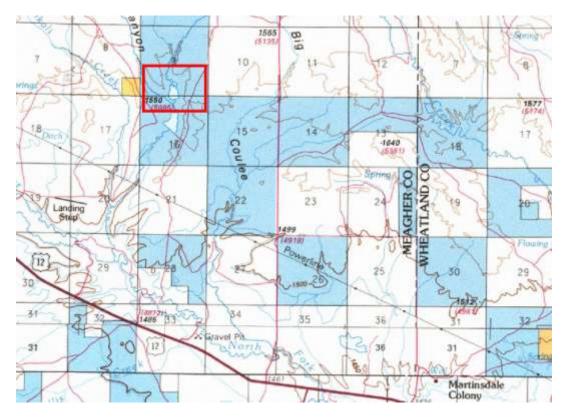




Figure 2. Top: Location of Hundred Dollar Bill Pond in red; T9N R11E sections 9/16. The lower pond no longer exists. Lower Aerial Photo: 2009 view of the pond.





Both Photos: Hundred Dollar Bill Pond June 8, 2010.